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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/822,940	03/30/2001	Andrew J. Gardner	TI-31757	8318
7590 12/15/2004			EXAMINER	
Ronald O. Neerings Texas Instruments Incorporated P.O. Box 655474 Mail station 3999 Dallas, TX 75265			BULLOCK JR. LEWIS ALEXANDER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2127	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004


Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/822,940

Applicant(s)

GARDNER, ANDREW J. 

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

Art Unit

2127

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 13-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/15/01</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. Claims 6-11 recite the limitation "said performing step" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-5 and 13-31 are allowed.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The cited claims detail the first data processor determining whether the second task is blocked, and if the second task is blocked, the first data processor interrupting the second data processor to inform the second data processor of the desired communication with a second task, and if the second task is not blocked with respect to communication on the predetermined communication channel the first data processor participating in the desired communication on the predetermined communication channel without interrupting the second data processor. None of the prior art of record detail determining whether a task is blocked in order to send or not send an interrupt to the task's processor. U.S. Patent 5,123,094, herein MacDougall, teaches sending a message operation to the destination processor through a shared memory, such that if the destination processor is interrupt disabled, the operation is either rejected or queued and if the processor is interrupt enabled, a interrupt is sent. The cited reference does not allude to determining whether a task on the processor is blocked in order to determine whether an interrupt is sent or not. The reference does not allude to interrupt

enabled and interrupt disabled as being the blocking of a tasks on the processor. The claims detail the processor determining whether the second task is blocked in order to determine whether to send an interrupt or not. Therefore, the claims are allowable over this cited prior art.

U.S. Patent 5,099,418, herein Pian, teaches a sending task communication with a receiving task wherein both task execute on processors, wherein communication occurs by determining whether a receiving task is blocked or not, and regardless if the task is blocked or unblocked performing interrupt enabled operations to notify the receiving processor of stored instructions in shared memory or to notify the sending processor of execution in shared memory. Pian does not selectively transmit an interrupt as disclosed in the claims based on the receiving tasks being blocked or not and therefore does not meet the limitations as disclosed. Therefore, the claims are allowable over the cited prior art of record.

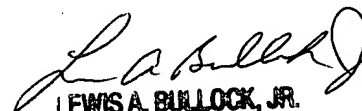
### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3759. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

December 13, 2004